



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	BISMARCK, ND	Accident Number:	DEN86FA075
Date & Time:	02/06/1986, 1137 CDT	Registration:	N55654
Aircraft:	PIPER PA-34-200	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Defining Event:		Injuries:	1 Fatal
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

THE ACFT WAS OBSERVED DESCENDING OUT OF A LOW CEILING WHEN IT SUDDENLY MADE AN ABRUPT LEFT TURN. ENGINE NOISE SEEMED TO INCREASE MOMENTARILY AND THEN THE NOSE OF THE ACFT DROPPED TO A NEAR VERTICAL POSITION. THE TWIN ENGINE ACFT CRASHED INTO A VACANT HOUSE TRAILER DESTROYING THE ACFT. SUBSEQUENT EXAMINATION OF THE WRECKAGE REVEALED 2 FUEL INJECTOR NOZZLES OF THE LEFT ENGINE WERE CLOGGED WITH FOREIGN MATERIAL AND CONTAMINATION WAS FOUND IN THE FUEL CONTROL UNIT OF THE SAME ENGINE.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF ENGINE POWER(TOTAL) - NONMECHANICAL
Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - INITIAL CLIMB

Findings

1. (C) FUEL SYSTEM,INJECTOR - BLOCKED(PARTIAL)
2. (C) FUEL SYSTEM,INJECTOR - CONTAMINATION
3. (C) FUEL SYSTEM,INJECTOR - CORRODED
4. (C) FUEL SYSTEM,FUEL CONTROL - CORRODED
5. (C) MAINTENANCE - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT
Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - INITIAL CLIMB

Findings

6. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - LOW CEILING
7. (C) AIRCRAFT HANDLING - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #3: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH OBJECT
Phase of Operation: DESCENT - UNCONTROLLED

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	28, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	Seatbelt
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	Yes
Medical Certification:	Class 3 Valid Medical--w/ waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	01/21/1985
Occupational Pilot:	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:		
Flight Time:	488 hours (Total, all aircraft), 124 hours (Total, this make and model), 6 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	PIPER	Registration:	N55654
Model/Series:	PA-34-200 PA-34-200	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	34-7350235
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tricycle	Seats:	6
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	08/20/1985, Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	4200 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	51 Hours	Engines:	2 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:		Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	IO-360-C1E6
Registered Owner:	DENNIS W. GRINAKER/THOM BRYON	Rated Power:	200 hp
Operator:	DENNIS W. GRINAKER/THOM BRYON	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Instrument Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	BIS, 1677 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	1 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	1143 CST	Direction from Accident Site:	300°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Partial Obscuration / 400 ft agl	Visibility	1 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Overcast / 400 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	5 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	290°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	-4° C / -4° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	BISMARCK, ND (BIS)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	VFR/IFR
Destination:	FARGO, ND (FAR)	Type of Clearance:	IFR
Departure Time:	1131 CST	Type of Airspace:	Class D; Class E

Airport Information

Airport:	BISMARCK MUNICIPAL (BIS)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	1650 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	31	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	8788 ft / 150 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	None

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Fatal	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 Fatal	Latitude, Longitude:	

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	VERLIN B TRANTER	Report Date:
Additional Participating Persons:	OTTO GEORGAN; FRAGO, ND ROBERT BEBOUT; FARGO, ND ROBERT BOOB, JR.; VERO BEACH, FL CHARLES WARD; OKLAHOMA CITY, OK	
Publish Date:		
Investigation Docket:	NTSB accident and incident dockets serve as permanent archival information for the NTSB's investigations. Dockets released prior to June 1, 2009 are publicly available from the NTSB's Record Management Division at pubinq@ntsb.gov , or at 800-877-6799. Dockets released after this date are available at http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/ .	

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